



LAC-IEE-12-49

ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DECISION

Activity Location:	Colombia
Activity Title:	Afro-Colombian Leadership and Scholarship Program
Activity Number:	514-A-00-08-00302-00
Life-of-Activity Funding:	\$1,481,500
Life-of-Activity:	December 14, 2007 – December 12, 2017
IEE prepared by:	Edwin Salcedo, USAID/Colombia
Reference ETDs:	LAC-IEE-10-51
Recommended Threshold Decision:	Categorical Exclusion
Bureau Threshold Decision:	Categorical Exclusion

Comments:

This Environmental Threshold Decision amends LAC-IEE-10-51 for the purposes of (1) add activities that will be implemented in Colombia to match the scope with the Activity Description Document; (2) increase funding (from \$1million to \$1,481,500); and (3) increase the life of activity from September 30, 2013 to December 12, 2017. All other provisions remain the same.

A **Categorical Exclusion** is issued to the Monitoring and Evaluation program, pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2):

- (i) Education, Technical Assistance or Training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);
- (ii) Analysis, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;
- (v) Document and information transfers;

- (xiv) Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)

Responsibilities

- Each activity manager or **Contract/Agreement Officer Representative (COR/AOR)** is responsible for making sure environmental conditions are met (ADS 204.3.4). In addition, COR/AORs are responsible for ensuring that appropriate environmental guidelines are followed, mitigation measures in the IEE are funded and implemented, and that adequate monitoring and evaluation protocols are in place to ensure implementation of mitigation measures.
- It is the responsibility of the **Strategic Objective (SO) Team** to ensure that environmental compliance language from the ETD is added to procurement and obligating documents, such as activity-related Strategic Objective Grant Agreements (SOAGs) and Modified Acquisition and Assistance Request Documents (MAARDs).
- The **Mission Environmental Officer** will conduct spot checks to ensure that conditions in the IEE and this ETD are met. These evaluations will review whether guidelines are properly used to implement activities under this ETD in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner according to USAID and applicable U.S. Government policies and regulations.
- The implementing **contractor or partner** will ensure that all activities conducted under this instrument comply with this ETD. **Also, through its regular reporting requirements, a section on environmental compliance (e.g. mitigation monitoring results) will be included.**

Amendments

- Amendments to Initial Environmental Examinations (IEE) shall be submitted for LAC Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO) approval for any activities not specifically covered in the IEE, which include:
 - Funding level increase beyond ETD amount,
 - Time period extension beyond ETD dates (even for no cost extension), or
 - A change in the scope of work.
- Amendments to IEEs include Environmental Assessments (EA or PEA) and approval of these documents by the LAC BEO could require an annual evaluation for environmental compliance.

Victor H. Bullen Date Aug 23, 2012
Victor H. Bullen
Bureau Environmental Officer
Bureau for Latin America & the Caribbean

Copy to: Peter Natiello, Mission Director, USAID/Colombia
Daniel Lopez, MEO
Edwin Salcedo, OVP

Copy to: Jason Girard, Regional Environmental Advisor,
USAID/Peru and Paul Schmidtke, Regional
Environmental Advisor, USAID/El Salvador

Copy to: Rebecca Levy, LAC/SA

Copy to: IEE File

Attachment: Initial Environmental Examination

File: P:\LAC.RSD.PUB\RSD_PUB\IEE\Reg 216\IEE\IEE12\ LAC-IEE-12-49 ETD (CO – AfroColombian Ldrshp Scholarshp Prgm, amend LAC-IEE-10-51).doc



AMENDED INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Activity Location:	Colombia
Activity Title:	Afro-Colombian Leadership and Scholarship Program
Activity Number:	514-A-00-08-00302-00
Life of Activity Funding:	Revised total: \$1,481,500 This amendment: \$481,500
Life of Activity:	December 13, 2012 to December 12, 2017
IEE Prepared by:	Edwin Salcedo, AOTR
Reference Environmental Threshold Decision	LAC-IEE-10-51
Date Prepared:	July 16, 2012
Recommended Threshold Decision:	Categorical Exclusion

1. Background and Activity Description

1.1. Background

The reason for this Amended Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) is three-fold: (1) add activities that will be implemented in Colombia to match the scope with the Activity Description Document; (2) increase funding (from \$1million to \$1,481,500); and (3) increase the life of activity from September 30, 2013 to December 12, 2017. All other provisions remain the same.

Through the IEE/ LAC IEE 10-51: Approved by the LAC BEO on May 21, 2010, and pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3 (a)(2)(iii), the Bureau Environmental Officer issued a **Categorical exclusion** for this activity which could be implemented, pursuant to Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Regulation 216 (22 CFR 216), subparagraph 2(c)(2) as classes of activities that do not require an IEE:

- (i) Activities involving education, training, technical assistance or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);
- (ii) Activities involving controlled experimentation exclusively for the purpose of research and field evaluation and carefully monitored;
- (iii) Activities involving analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;
- (v) Activities involving document and information transfers;
- (xiv) Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries and organizations to engage in development planning.

1.2. Description of Activities

The Afro-Colombian Leadership Scholarship Program has granted twenty one scholarships to emerging Afro-Colombian students during the past four years to pursue graduate studies in U.S. Universities. Furthermore, this program had an additional component of Leadership building for Afro-Colombian university students in the cities of Cartagena, Cali, Bogotá and Quibdó. For this new extension, additional activities under the Afro-Colombian Leadership Scholarship Program will be implemented to increase in a number no less than fifteen Afro-Colombian students in a period of five years. This program holds a set of activities such as, i) promotion/recruitment component, ii) pre-academic/leadership component and iii) academic component in the U.S.

2. Environmental Compliance to Date

Activity interventions to date (workshops and training) received Categorical Exclusion determination and have had no negative impact on the natural environment.

3. Recommended Threshold Decision

The Office of Vulnerable Populations Team recommends the following determination for the Afro-Colombian Leadership and Scholarship Program:

- A Categorical Exclusion for the program considering that the actions do not have a significant negative effect on the natural or physical environment. Training and Technical Assistance to be provided fall within the classes of actions described below in Section 216.2(c)(2), "Categorical Exclusions" of 22 CFR Environmental Procedures Part 216:

- (i) Education, Technical Assistance or Training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.);
- (iii) Analysis, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;
- (v) Document and information transfers;
- (xiv) Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)

As currently planned, no interventions will directly negatively affect the environment. If additional activities are considered that may directly affect the environment (such as construction or rehabilitation of facilities), an amended IEE shall be submitted as deemed appropriate.

Approval:

Date: _____

Daniel Lopez

Mission Environment Officer

Concurrence:

Date: _____

Jene Thomas

Acting Mission Director, USAID/Colombia

Date: _____

Paul Schmidtke, Regional

Environmental Advisor

Approval:

Date: _____

Victor Bullen

LAC Bureau Environmental Officer

CLEARANCE PAGE FOR AMENDED INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Drafted by:

OVP, E. Salcedo _____ Date: _____

Cleared by:

AOVPD: D. Reiff _____ Date: _____

AMD: J. Thomas _____ Date: _____

MEO: D. Lopez _____ Date: _____